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Dated: January 4, 2006

Signature: *Roger A. Heppermann*

(Roger A. Heppermann)

Docket No.: 29983/36943  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
A. D. Brown et al.

Application No.: 09/814,014

Confirmation No.: 2987

Filed: March 21, 2001

Art Unit: 3621

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR  
EXCHANGING FERROUS, NON-FERROUS  
AND PLATINUM GROUP METALS

Examiner: C. O. Sherr

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This paper is filed in response to the non-final Office Action dated July 5, 2005, for which the sixth-month statutory period for response is set to expire on January 5, 2006. This paper is filed with a petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee therefor. Accordingly, this paper is timely filed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Listing of Claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.